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**CAREER ADVANCEMENT SERVICES
TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

November 27, 2006

Mr. Robert I. Batteese, Jr., Director
Maine Department of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources
Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028

Dear Mr. Batteese:

For the 2007 agricultural season, Training and Development Corporation (TDC) and the Maine Migrant Health Program (MMHP) will work in partnership to host two AmeriCorps member and one Health Educator. This letter provides an explanation of how this partnership will work and our request to the Board for financial assistance to support these positions essential for the continued operation of these very important services to growers and farmworkers here in Maine.

TDC hosted AmeriCorps Members in Maine from 1995 to 2006 for the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP). This national program, SAFE – Serving America's Farmworkers Everywhere, has worked with over 500 AmeriCorps members since its inception with members educating nearly a quarter million farmworkers and children about pesticide safety. In return for their service, members receive a living allowance, basic health care, and an educational award that can be applied to college loans or tuition.

The AFOP AmeriCorps' mission is to improve the health and well-being of farmworkers and their families by educating parents, children and other farmworkers about pesticide exposure and other health and safety risks related to farm labor, and providing related literacy and health education services. AFOP has continually evaluated the service AFOP AmeriCorps members have provided to local communities and Pesticide Safety Training remains the centerpiece of the program.

As we have for the past 5 years, in 2007 TDC will coordinate the AmeriCorps service effort with the Maine Migrant Health Program (MMHP). The MMHP is committed to increasing access to primary and preventive health care for Maine's farmworkers. This is achieved through health education, targeted case management and most importantly by bringing mobile medical and nursing care to farmworkers and their family members.

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During the 2007 agricultural year, TDC and MMHP propose to continue the successful model of combining the service of these two positions, an Americorp member and a Health Educator, to provide health and safety outreach to farmworkers in our state.

TDC plans to host two AmeriCorps members for a three-month summer service term who will serve along side the MMHP Health Educator during this same period. These three individuals will work closely together with the majority of outreach occurring in central, eastern, and northern regions of the state. As has been the case in recent years, TDC will collaborate with the Maine Migrant Health Program to ensure that services are reaching the maximum number of farmworkers without duplication of effort.

Last year, outreach efforts at the migrant camps and farms were central to the outcomes obtained by the Americorps member and the Health Educator. As has been the case with previous members, their Spanish skills proved to be essential for serving the migrant farmworker population. Their collective efforts were substantial and the chart below specifies the number of individuals receiving service under this collaborative project by major program activity.

Pesticide Safety Training – Adults	506
Pesticide Safety Training – Children	45
Other Health Training - Adults	54
Health Training – Children/Youth	30
Translation Services	371
Referrals	205
Volunteers Recruited	21

The cash match provided by the Board of Pesticides Control has been essential to ensuring the continuation of the AFOP AmeriCorps program and Health Education services in Maine. The support has led to the development of a successful model for providing health and safety outreach to farmworkers with pesticide safety training as the central focus. TDC is asking for the Board's consideration in providing \$1,165 cash match for the 2007 AmeriCorps members and an additional \$2,300 to support a summer Health Education intern to serve with the Maine Migrant Health Program.

Again, thank you for your support over the years and your willingness to consider this request for assistance for the 2007 program. For additional information regarding the AFOP SAFE AmeriCorps Program you may contact me by email at DKlein@tdc-usa.org or by phone at 207-561-4077. You may also contact Hope Driscoll, AFOP Americorps Director, at www.afop.org or at 202-828-6006. MMHP Director, Barbara Ginley, may also be contacted at bginley@mainemigrant.org or by phone at 622-9252. Barbara and I look forward to meeting with the Board in December to further discuss this collaborative opportunity.

Sincerely,



David Klein, M.S.

Principal Practitioner

Career Advancement Services

Training and Development Corporation